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THE NATIONAL LAW CENTER  
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
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March 14, 1960

Allen W. Dulles, Esquire  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Dullas:

This is just a note to thank you for the friendly message which was read at the dinner which the George Washington Law Association gave for Mrs. Nutting and me on Thursday, March 10th. In the hope that you are interested in our plans for the Law Center, I am taking the liberty of enclosing a copy of the remarks which I made at the dinner. I hope at some future time to have an opportunity to discuss these plans with you.

Yours very truly,

*Charles B. Nutting*  
Charles B. Nutting  
Dean

Enclosure

CBN:mw

The National Law Center:

A Report To The Alumni of The George Washington Law School

By: Charles B. Nutting  
Dean, The National Law Center  
Thursday, March 10, 1960

I am extremely grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to meet and talk with you about some of our plans and hopes for the Law Center. Perhaps a good way to start would be to attempt to answer the question which I know is in the minds of many of you. What is The Law Center?

In some ways an honest answer would be "I can hardly wait to find out." But this is not completely fair. For one thing, a Law Center begins with a Law School and we have a good one. I should like to emphasize that point at the very outset of my remarks because when a new person comes on the scene and talks about plans for the future he sometimes gives the impression of being critical when he does not intend to be. We have a good school with a fine reputation. You know better than I of the thousands of distinguished practitioners, judges, statesmen, government officials and business executives which the school has produced during the ninety five years of its existence. We acquired many others by adoption when the National Law School joined us. We shall always be conscious of the fact that the Law School must be the foundation on which we build and that it must gain increasing strength and stature if our total plan is to succeed.

But a Law Center is more than a Law School with a different name. In our case it will involve a new school called the Graduate School of Public Law as well as a number of institutes and related programs. I shall have more to say about this later but just now I should like to try to answer another question, and a very fair one. Why create a separate graduate school of public law rather than simply expanding the graduate offerings of the present school?

In part the decision of the Trustees of the University to take this action was for the purpose of giving dramatic emphasis to the fact that in this city we have an opportunity to create something truly unique in legal education, as I shall point out in a moment. In part it was felt that a separate school would find it easier to devise new and stimulating programs of instruction and research which would involve other areas of the University and, perhaps, cooperation with other law schools. There was also the practical consideration that the magnitude of the task to which the University has set itself is so great that it simply cannot be accomplished without additional administrative help of a high order.

These schools, institutes and other organizations will, of course, require housing and it will be necessary as, again, I shall explain in greater detail later, to provide a new building adequate to supply the space and facilities needed for the greatly expanded program.

So much for the organizational aspects of the Law Center. Now I wish to state as briefly, concisely and honestly as I can where we are, where we are going and how we propose to get there.

First, the Law School. Contrary to some comments which I have heard, the Law School has not been standing still. In fact, I think the Alumni should pay tribute to the progress which has been made under the leadership of the Acting Dean and the Acting President. Having been both in another institution, I can offer personal testimony as to the difficulties of these positions. At any rate, the Law School has made substantial progress on all fronts within the last five years. Salaries have been improved and the faculty has been

strengthened. We have a competent and, in some cases, a distinguished full time faculty. The part time faculty is exceptional. But salaries are still too low, the full time faculty is still too small and the physical environment leaves much to be desired.

The Law Center, apart from the Law School, is largely in the planning stage. However, the Graduate School of Public Law has been authorized by the Trustees of the University. We have in being the Patent Trademark and Copyright Foundation which will form a part of the Center. Shortly an announcement of an important new program involving Law and Medicine will be made. Thus, we have definite assurance that we are on our way.

As to the new building, I can state these facts. I have been furnished with an accounting for the proceeds of the drive which was carried on by the alumni some time ago. After the payments of various expenses connected with the drive itself and with preliminary plans for the building, we have on deposit and drawing interest as of February 25, 1960 the sum of \$157,683.95. The site for the building has been determined. It is in the area bordered by Pennsylvania Avenue, G Street and 19th and 20th Streets. The University, with University funds, is in the process of acquiring this land. To date it has purchased approximately 55% of the area at a cost of \$591,500. I have been assured that land acquisition will be carried on as rapidly as possible. The general character of the building has been determined and preliminary drawings have been made but no definitive decisions in regard to the details have been reached.

Where are we going? At this point it is necessary to speak both of short and long term objectives. As to the former, I can make these observations:

We shall proceed immediately to find deans for both the School of Law and the Graduate School of Public Law. The search may take time since we are going to be careful in our choices. I hope that we will be successful in filling one or both of these positions by the beginning of the fall term or, at the latest, by the beginning of the spring semester of 1961. The University Administration is considering recommendations which, if adopted, will enlarge the full time faculty of the Law School and create a nucleus of the faculty of the Graduate School of Public Law. It also has before it other recommendations which will greatly strengthen the existing program and which will place us in a position to move forward.

The program of the Graduate School of Public Law will be organized as rapidly as possible but the establishment of a curriculum must be carried on in a deliberate way and should involve the participation of the faculty of the school.

We shall move rapidly to develop and settle upon plans for the building. Before I talk to you again on this subject I shall be able to present concrete and reasonably detailed plans for your consideration.

As to the long view, I must content myself with generalizations at least to some extent. I begin with this proposition, which represents the decision of the Board of Trustees. We intend to create a Law Center which is nothing less than excellent. We shall

strengthen the Law School and its faculty so that it can fully perform its traditional functions. In the Graduate School of Public Law we shall have the following objectives among others:

1. A program of specialized formal instruction which will involve other areas of the University and which will produce fully qualified experts in various fields such as taxation, labor law and trade regulation.
2. Research and instruction (the latter under the academic control of the appropriate faculty,) by a number of permanent institutes. An example of what we intend to do in the Law-Medicine program will, as I have indicated, be presented shortly.
3. Specific research projects such as the history and significance of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, the scope of the so-called "right to know" asserted by communications media and various technical problems of government having legal implications.
4. A selective and significant program of continuing legal education which will be useful to members of the bar. In addition to numerous graduate courses open to lawyers we shall plan to offer institutes and symposiums such as those presented in the past in such fields as public contracts and immigration as well as others which may become important.
5. A program in the field of law among nations which will emphasize not only such matters as the problems involved in doing business abroad and the legal aspects of international finance but also those concerned with acquainting lawyers from abroad with American political and legal institutions. Here, as elsewhere,

we shall expect to act in close cooperation with the University's School of Government.

Now, as St. Paul said, "concerning the collection:" You can readily see that we are talking about large amounts of money. These funds must be obtained not only from the University but, particularly in the case of the Graduate School of Public Law, from outside sources such as individuals, foundations and, as to some research programs, grants from government and industry. I cannot at this time put price tags on specific portions of the project but it seems realistic to say that we must think of an amount equal to a capital fund of about ten million dollars in order to erect and furnish the building and get the program under way. Beyond that, the sky is the limit.

When can this be accomplished? Time tables are always subject to revision. However, I call your attention to the fact that in 1965 the Law School will celebrate its centennial. Wouldn't it be a fine thing if we, as Northwestern University Law School is doing this May, could observe that anniversary by dedicating a new, completely furnished building in which all divisions of the Law Center were in operation? This will take some doing and some careful planning but I suggest this as a possible goal.

They said it couldn't be done! If a filter cigarette can accomplish miracles, why not we?

So far I have tried to deal as specifically as possible with the organization and development of the Law Center. This is necessary because, with renewed apologies to St. Paul and additional



ones to General Taylor, ". . . if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?"

Now, as I close, I should like to turn to the basic philosophy which has caused the Trustees to adopt this program and to give it a high priority in the expansion of the University. But before I do so, let me be personal for just a moment.

It has been said, no doubt falsely, that Mr. Sam Goldwyn once asserted that anyone who goes to a psychiatrist ought to have his head examined. Although I have never been to a psychiatrist, on two occasions in my life this has been said of me. The first was fourteen years ago when I left a position in the government to go to Pittsburgh. Mrs. Nutting and I were regarded by our friends as being poor unfortunates condemned forever to a life amid smoke, dirt and decay. And yet, since that time Pittsburgh has undergone the most remarkable physical transformation of any urban center in the world. I cannot pretend to have had much to do with it, but I was near enough the center to know what able, purposeful and dedicated men and women can accomplish.

The next time was only a few weeks ago when my appointment as Dean of the Law Center was announced. A friend, very close to the source of power in Pittsburgh, called me and said, in a voice heavy with foreboding, "Charlie, I suppose you know what you're doing, but people around town wonder about it."

I submit that I did know what I was doing, because I had read a resolution written in the main by the late Mr. Justice Jackson and the present Chairman of the University's Board of Trustees, and later adopted by the whole Board. I shall not read

all of it at this time, for it has recently been published. But in part it states:

"The fundamental aspirations of free society can only be achieved through justice under law in the local, national, and world communities. It is the responsibility of legal education, to strive continually for improvement in law, as a basic element of our form of government. There should be particular emphasis on the new and complex problems developing in the public law area because it is here that the balance between individual rights and governmental power is to be resolved. In the inter-national sphere the long range objective should be to evolve a system of law and justice under which all peoples could some day live in peace and security. In the short run, the examination and understanding of the problems of the free world would be an important objective.

"Legal education must be broadened and deepened in order to meet the challenges and obligations flowing from the complex interrelations of modern society and the resulting expansion and multiplication of governmental functions. Education in the law is in fact training for responsible public leadership both in and out of government. A national law school must achieve this high task rather than limit its performance to conceptions of education and training which were adequate for simpler times. It must assure that students are prepared for the practice of law wherever Anglo-American common law principles prevail. It has the responsibility to provide legally trained personnel who will be competent in the whole range of government activities, as well as expert in special fields, such as are created by the machinery of taxation and the